Acquisition Reform Success Story

Flight Line Deicer

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Program Description

The Air Force was in dire need of 17 flight line deicers. Seven large aircraft flight line deicers were destined for McGuire AFB and ten additional units to support C-17 and E-3A world-wide locations.

How Streamlining Made a Difference

Aircraft deicing is not military unique; commercial airlines have the same deicing needs. A new commercial deicing substance, Type II Fluid, is a gel-like substance which removes ice from aircraft and prevents ice build-up for up to one hour. Commercial aviation in Europe and North America is fast accepting this new deicing technology. The northern latitudes require equipment that can remove ice from aircraft and retard icing build-up. McGuire AFB had an urgent requirement to have seven units in place for the 1996/1997 winter. In order to meet this requisite, SA-ALC/LDE issued a solicitation for a commercial item using a Statement of Objectives (SOO). Since the Air Force was buying existing commercial deicing units, the solicitation was issued using a Standard Form 1449. All offerors were required to provide incremental prices for the first year ordering period, plus a second option year to be exercised at the Air Force's discretion and prices for stateside transportation, overseas preservation packaging, and commissioning. Contract was awarded ninety days after notice of the requirement. First seven units were delivered 60 days ahead of schedule.

Measure	FROM	TO
Procurement process time	**10 months**	**99 days**
Reduced Delivery	**8 months**	**6 months**
Projected Program Savings	**0**	**$476K**

Bottom Line: The purchase of commercial deicing units using Acquisition Reform Initiatives resulted in a 75% faster turn around time (doing it **better**), an 11% reduction in unit cost (doing it **cheaper**), and 25% shorter delivery time (doing it **faster**).

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